

Annual Progress Report

III-V HETEROJUNCTION STRUCTURES  
AND HIGH SPEED DEVICES

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March 8, 1988

Capt. Gregory Rosalia  
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Dear Capt. Rosalia:

Please find enclosed a copy of our Annual Progress Report for Grant No. AFOSR-86-0111.  
A copy of the report has also been sent to the program manager, Dr. Gerald Witt.

Sincerely,

*James G. Chew for Hadis Morkoc*  
Hadis Morkoc

Enclosure

HM:jjc



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### III-V HETEROJUNCTION STRUCTURES AND HIGH SPEED DEVICES

#### I. Summary

Dramatic reductions have been achieved in alloyed and non-alloyed contact resistance to n-type InGaAs through the use of an InAs cap layer. We report best ever specific contact resistances of  $2.6 \times 10^{-8} \Omega \cdot \text{cm}^2$  and less than  $1.7 \times 10^{-8} \Omega \cdot \text{cm}^2$  for non-alloyed and alloyed contacts, respectively. Application of this contacting technique to the source and drain of FET structures and to the emitter and perhaps base of HBT and HET structures is expected to produce improvements in device performance and reproducibility.

Results on the use of an InAs cap layer on an InGaAs/InAlAs double HBT have already been reported. For a  $50 \mu\text{m} \times 50 \mu\text{m}$  active device area, we reported a highest ever common emitter current gain of 1500 at collector current densities of  $2.7 \times 10^3 \text{ A/cm}^2$ , with an offset voltage of less than 50 mV.

A systematic investigation of the  $\text{In}_y\text{Ga}_{1-y}\text{As}/\text{Al}_{0.15}\text{Ga}_{0.85}\text{As}$  pseudomorphic MODFET has revealed an optimum InAs mole fraction of  $0.15 \leq y \leq 0.20$ . Meanwhile, continuing studies of the InGaAs/GaAs strained layer MQW by optical transmission and photoreflectance have displayed sharp spectral features, revealing the excellent optical quality of the samples. With good agreement between the measured spectra and our band structure model, an increased understanding of the InGaAs/GaAs strained layer heterojunction has been achieved. Fabricating InGaAs/GaAs MQW structures into p-i-n optical modulators, large 27% changes in transmission have been reported. Operating this MQW electroabsorption optical modulator as a Self-Electrooptic Effect Device, we have reported the first demonstration of this device in the InGaAs material system.

Growth of InGaAs/GaAs superlattices, as well as GaAs/AlGaAs superlattices, on Si substrates has also been performed with sharp spectral features again revealing the good quality of the epilayers. Meanwhile, investigation of thermal annealing of the GaAs/Si heterointerface has

proceeded. Significantly, the electrical characteristics of the annealed p-GaAs/n-Si heterojunction is observed to approach those of in-situ grown p/n homojunctions. Extrapolated C-V intercept voltages uniformly approach their predicted 1.17 V value. Ideality factors all improved with annealing with values as low as 1.5, while leakage currents were reduced by three orders of magnitude. These junction characteristics are acceptable for device applications. An integrated GaAs/Si HBT has therefore been proposed with potentially superior high speed performance, and proper transistor action in such a device has been observed.

An InGaAs/InAlAs HET with a 600 Å thick base has displayed best hot electron transfer ratios and differential hot electron transfer ratios of 0.91 and 0.98, respectively. Meanwhile, a peak ballistic transfer ratio of 0.82 was reported in this structure, along with the observation of a transmission resonance above the collector barrier.

## II. Progress Made

### *Low Resistance Contacts*

Using an InAs contact layer, we have reported extremely low alloyed and non-alloyed n-type ohmic contact resistances on  $\text{In}_{0.53}\text{Ga}_{0.47}\text{As}/\text{In}_{0.52}\text{Al}_{0.48}\text{As}$  structures grown on InP. Using an extended Transmission Line Model, specific contact resistances of  $2.6 \times 10^{-8} \Omega \cdot \text{cm}^2$  and  $2.9 \times 10^{-11} \Omega \cdot \text{cm}^2$ , with corresponding transfer resistances of  $0.018 \Omega \cdot \text{mm}$  and  $0.0006 \Omega \cdot \text{mm}$ , were measured for the non-alloyed and alloyed contacts, respectively. Given the standard error in the measured resistances, however, we reported an alloyed specific contact resistance of only  $1.7 \times 10^{-8} \Omega \cdot \text{cm}^2$ . Nevertheless, these ohmic contact resistances are by far the best values ever achieved in this material system to date. Investigation of p-type ohmic contacts using the InAs cap layer are currently under way. Additionally, use of a strained InAs cap layer on GaAs/AlGaAs structures is also under investigation.

### *Field Effect Transistors*

With the uniformity and observed reproducibility of the low resistance non-alloyed contacts, specific device applications for this InAs cap layer are clearly envisioned. One application of this contacting technique is in the formation of low resistance contacts at the source and drain of FET device structures. Preliminary results on an InGaAs/InAlAs MODFET reveal transfer resistances of the source and drain contacts of less than  $0.08 \Omega \cdot \text{mm}$ . For the devices investigated to date, highly uniform room temperature transconductances of around  $250 \text{ mS/mm}$  have been measured repeatedly for  $1 \mu\text{m}$  gate lengths. Using optimized processing, further reductions in contact resistance are expected, which should result directly in improved transconductances.

Doped channel InGaAs MISFETs with an InAs cap layer have also been investigated. These doped channel structures offer potentially larger current capabilities and transconductances because of their higher channel carrier densities, with reductions in carrier mobilities not expected to dramatically reduce performance in submicron gate-length devices. With low transfer resistances

of less than  $0.08 \Omega \cdot \text{mm}$ , devices with  $1 \mu\text{m}$  gate lengths exhibited transconductances of  $125 \text{ mS/mm}$  at  $300 \text{ K}$  and  $275 \text{ mS/mm}$  at  $77 \text{ K}$ , while displaying excellent pinch-off and saturation characteristics. These preliminary results should improve significantly with optimization of the device structure. Meanwhile, increased current driving capability is also being investigated through the use of multiple channels in a pseudomorphic MODFET. Devices with two and three channels have demonstrated increased currents while maintaining excellent cut-off characteristics.

Finally, work has continued on the study of  $\text{In}_y\text{Ga}_{1-y}\text{As}/\text{GaAs}$  strained layer multiple quantum wells (MQWs) to better understand the characteristics of the  $\text{InGaAs}/\text{GaAs}$  heterojunction. These studies have been pursued in efforts to achieve better pseudomorphic MODFET device performance. Using low temperature optical transmission and room temperature photoreflectance, sharp transitions were observed in the measured spectra revealing the excellent optical quality of the samples, with excitonic transitions up to  $3\text{C}-3\text{H}$  (3rd conduction and 3rd valence heavy-hole subbands). Using Kane's three band model (including strain effects), calculation of the band structure was performed showing good agreement with measurement. By fitting the experimental results, a heavy-hole valence band discontinuity of 30% was obtained for  $0.13 \leq y \leq 0.193$ .

Applying our understanding of the  $\text{InGaAs}/\text{GaAs}$  strained layer heterojunction,  $\text{In}_y\text{Ga}_{1-y}\text{As}/\text{Al}_{0.15}\text{Ga}_{0.85}\text{As}$  pseudomorphic MODFETs were systematically investigated to determine the optimum InAs mole fraction and  $\text{InGaAs}$  well thickness. From detailed characterization by transmission electron microscopy (dislocation images), Hall measurement (mobilities and sheet carrier concentrations), and photoreflectance (energy subband transitions), we reported a peak in device performance for InAs mole fractions  $0.15 \leq y \leq 0.20$ : for a  $1 \mu\text{m}$  gate device with a  $150 \text{ \AA}$   $\text{In}_{0.20}\text{Ga}_{0.80}\text{As}$  quantum well, an extrinsic transconductance of  $310 \text{ mS/mm}$  was reported at room temperature.



### *Multiple Quantum Well Optical Modulators*

Transmission measurements on undoped as well as heavily modulation doped GaAs/AlGaAs multiple quantum wells (MQWs) have been extensively studied to examine the mechanisms that influence the excitonic absorption lineshape. Optical modulators based upon the strong field dependence of optical absorption (electroabsorption) have previously been demonstrated. Namely, using the quantum confined Stark effect. AlGaAs/GaAs MQW p-i-n modulators were demonstrated. Through our continuing studies of InGaAs/GaAs strained layer MQWs, we have extended our research towards the investigation of an InGaAs/GaAs MQW optical modulator. Operating in the far infrared, the InGaAs material is of considerable interest because of its compatibility with optical communication systems. Using photocurrent and transmission measurements, large excitonic absorption resonances were observed at room temperature in the InGaAs/GaAs MQW structure. Fabricated into p-i-n optical modulators, changes in the transmission of 27%, corresponding to a change in the absorption coefficient of  $2260 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ , were recorded for an applied reverse bias of 6 V, at a wavelength of  $0.975 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$ . Operating this MQW electroabsorption optical modulator as a Self-Electrooptic Effect Device, the first demonstration of clear non-linear optical input-output characteristics was reported for this important material system. Investigation of an InGaAs/GaAs MQW optical modulator on a Si substrate are currently under way. The realization of this structure will offer exciting possibilities in combining optical communication systems with Si circuits.

### *GaAs on Si*

In our on-going research into growing III-V semiconductors on Si substrates, the growth of GaAs/AlGaAs and InGaAs/GaAs superlattices on Si substrates was investigated using photoreflectance studies to determine the quality of the epilayers. We have reported sharp spectral features from various subband transitions indicating good quality of the epilayer using suitable growth techniques.

The investigation of thermal annealing on the properties of the GaAs/Si heterojunction has proceeded in collaboration with N. Otsuka of Purdue University, P. Gourley of Sandia National

Laboratories, and P. Raccach of the University of Illinois at Chicago. Plan-view TEM has revealed dislocation densities of the annealed samples in the low  $10^5 \text{ cm}^{-2}$  range, a three to four orders of magnitude reduction from the as-grown samples. As expected, threading dislocations are dramatically reduced with annealing, while a network of misfit dislocations is enhanced. Notably, the  $\approx 100 \text{ \AA}$  spacing between the misfit dislocations agree well with the theoretical spacing of mismatch accommodation by only Type I dislocations ( $99 \text{ \AA}$ ). Using a larger field scanning photoluminescence technique, defect densities of samples annealed at  $850^\circ\text{C}$  were measured to be  $1 \times 10^6 \text{ cm}^{-2}$  and  $6 \times 10^6 \text{ cm}^{-2}$  for shallow and deep excitation, respectively. Finally, preliminary electroreflectance studies have been performed suggesting a compressive strain of the GaAs localized within  $\approx 600 \text{ \AA}$  of the heterointerface.

Applying the results on the quality of the GaAs on Si to refined growth and processing, the electrical characteristics of the heterointerface was investigated in a p-GaAs epilayer on n-Si substrate diode. As previously reported, capacitance-voltage measurements performed on as-grown GaAs on Si samples displayed extrapolated intercept voltage values varying from 1.5 to 2.5 V between Si wafers. After annealing for 20 min at  $850^\circ\text{C}$ , the intercept voltages were found to approach their predicted value of 1.17 V with the variation in intercept voltages between Si wafers dramatically reduced. The effects of annealing were also observed in the enhancement of current-voltage characteristics. Ideality factors as low as 1.5 were measured for the annealed p-GaAs/n-Si diode, as compared to values greater than 2 measured for the as-grown diodes. Similar improvements were also exhibited in the reverse bias properties with a three orders of magnitude reduction in leakage current achieved as a consequence of annealing. These results show that possible interface reconstruction between Si and GaAs reduce, if not eliminate, the postulated large electric field at the GaAs/Si(100) interface.

Achievement of excellent junction properties between Si and GaAs suggest the integration of GaAs and Si within the same device. Pursuing the realization of such a novel device, a study was undertaken to examine the potential performance of a n-AlGaAs emitter, p-GaAs base on a n-Si

collector heterojunction bipolar transistor (HBT). Such a device structure combines the high frequency capability of the GaAs/AlGaAs system with the advanced processing technology of Si. Detailing a possible implementation of a GaAs/Si HBT, dramatic reductions in device parasitics are anticipated from its self-aligned structure. Using a compact transistor model, calculations of the high speed capability of the transistor were performed revealing performance values superior to those predicted for realizable GaAs/AlGaAs HBTs with equivalent design parameters. Specifically, optimized  $f_{\max} = 110$  GHz and  $f_{\max} = f_t = 94$  GHz were predicted for the GaAs/Si HBT as compared to 108 GHz and 76 GHz, respectively, for a comparable GaAs/AlGaAs HBT. As these simulations made use of fairly conservative dimensions and device parameters, the simulated results are encouraging and suggest further investigation of this device. Efforts to realize the GaAs/Si HBT are currently under way. Investigating relatively large dimension transistor structures, preliminary results on the GaAs/Si HBT show proper transistor action.

#### *Heterojunction Bipolar Transistors*

In our study of the heterojunction bipolar transistor (HBT), analysis of an  $\text{In}_{0.53}\text{Ga}_{0.47}\text{As}/\text{InP}$  double HBT (DHBT) was performed to determine the relative merits of this material system. Using a compact transistor model, optimized current gain cutoff frequencies in excess of 150 GHz and a maximum oscillation frequency of 138 GHz are theoretically predicted for an  $\text{InP}/\text{In}_{0.53}\text{Ga}_{0.47}\text{As}$  transistor.

Meanwhile, in conjunction with our simulations of device performance, an  $\text{In}_{0.53}\text{Ga}_{0.47}\text{As}/\text{In}_{0.52}\text{Al}_{0.48}\text{As}$  double heterojunction bipolar transistor (DHBT) was investigated using the InAs contacting technique. This high current handling device is of significant practical importance in driving lasers in opto-electronic integrated circuits. With specific contact resistances of less than  $1.5 \times 10^{-7} \Omega \cdot \text{cm}^2$  for non-alloyed n-type contacts, maximum common emitter current gains of 1500 are reported at collector current densities of  $2.7 \times 10^3 \text{ A/cm}^2$ . To our knowledge, this is the highest current gain reported for this HBT structure prepared by MBE. Note that the common emitter output characteristics of this reported structure exhibited an offset voltage of less than

50 mV. Further optimization of the device structure is currently proceeding. Additionally, investigation of a p-n-p InGaAs/InAlAs DHBT is also under way. Finally, we hope to eventually perform microwave measurements on these transistors, which currently await a new microwave test fixture.

### *Hot Electron Transistors*

Work has continued in the exploration of  $\text{In}_{0.53}\text{Ga}_{0.47}\text{As}/\text{In}_{0.52}\text{Al}_{0.48}\text{As}$  hot electron transistors (HET). While the HET is typically operated at low temperature to reduce the background thermal current and thereby enhance the injected current, the large conduction band discontinuity between  $\text{In}_{0.53}\text{Ga}_{0.47}\text{As}$  and  $\text{In}_{0.52}\text{Al}_{0.48}\text{As}$  permits operation of the InGaAs/InAlAs HET at elevated temperatures. With a reduced thickness of the base transit region (600 Å), collection of nonthermal electrons was observed at 300 K. A differential transfer ratio  $\alpha=0.35$  was measured at the hot electron peak at room temperature. At 77 K, an impressive  $\alpha=0.98$  hot electron transfer ratio was measured with a corresponding dc transfer ratio of 0.91. These hot electron gains are superior to those previously reported for GaAs/AlGaAs and InGaAs/InAlAs HETs with even thinner base layers.

Meanwhile, investigation of ballistic transport through the 600 Å thick base of the HET was further pursued. We have reported a 77 K peak ballistic transfer ratio of 0.82. The appearance of a secondary conductance peak near  $V_{\text{CB}}=0$  in these results is attributed to a transmission resonance in the energy continuum above the collector barrier. Due to thermal smearing effects at 77 K, resolution of the multiple energy peaks from the resonant (virtual) states was not resolved; rather, a single diffuse resonant enhanced peak was observed. Further improvements in the performance of our hot electron transistors is currently limited by our ability to achieve reproducible, low resistance ohmic contacts to the thin base (and emitter) layer. Use of the InAs cap layer for extremely low non-alloyed ohmic contacts should greatly improve measured ballistic transport characteristics, with potentially useful device gains.

A more detailed presentation of our results are given in the abstracts of some representative papers, included in the following pages. For those desiring to review the complete papers, we have provided cross referencing of the attached abstracts with the list of latest publications. This attached list of publications includes essentially all the journal articles and conference abstracts printed and/or submitted in 1987, including AFOSR supported research as well as research supported by other grants.

## III. Representative Papers

**EXTREMELY LOW NON-ALLOYED AND ALLOYED CONTACT  
RESISTANCE USING AN InAs CAP LAYER ON InGaAs BY  
MOLECULAR BEAM EPITAXY**

by

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## ABSTRACT

Extremely low alloyed and non-alloyed ohmic contact resistances have been formed on n-type InAs/In<sub>0.53</sub>Ga<sub>0.47</sub>As /In<sub>0.52</sub>Al<sub>0.48</sub>As structures grown on InP(Fe) by molecular beam epitaxy. To insure the accuracy of the small contact resistances measured, an extended Transmission Line Model was used to extrapolate contact resistances from test patterns with multiple gap spacings varying from 1  $\mu\text{m}$  to 20  $\mu\text{m}$ . For a 150 Å thick InAs layer doped to  $2 \times 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$  and a 0.1  $\mu\text{m}$  thick InGaAs layer doped to  $1 \times 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ , a specific contact resistance of  $2.6 \times 10^{-8} \Omega \cdot \text{cm}^2$  was measured for the non-alloyed contact, while a resistance less than  $1.7 \times 10^{-8} \Omega \cdot \text{cm}^2$  is reported for the alloyed contact. Conventional Au-Ge/Ni/Au was used for the ohmic metal contact and alloying was performed at 500 °C for 50 seconds in flowing H<sub>2</sub>. Using a thermionic field emission model, the barrier height at the InAs/InGaAs interface was calculated to be 20 meV.

*Reference #424*

# DETERMINATION OF BAND OFFSETS IN $\text{AlGaAs/GaAs}$ AND $\text{InGaAs/GaAs}$ MULTIPLE QUANTUM WELLS.

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## ABSTRACT

The determination of valence band offsets  $Q_v$  by fitting the optical transmission spectra for  $\text{Al}_x\text{Ga}_{1-x}\text{As/GaAs}$  and  $\text{In}_y\text{Ga}_{1-y}\text{As/GaAs}$  multiple quantum wells (MQWs) is discussed. The valence band offset  $Q_v$  is defined as  $Q_v = \Delta E_v / (\Delta E_v + \Delta E_c)$ , where  $\Delta E_v$  and  $\Delta E_c$  are the valence and conduction band discontinuities at the heterojunction. For  $\text{Al}_x\text{Ga}_{1-x}\text{As/GaAs}$  (Type I for both heavy holes and light holes, i.e. electrons, heavy holes and light holes are located in the same layers) the energy separation  $\Delta E$  between the first light and heavy hole subbands in the valence band is used to determine the valence band offset  $Q_v$ . In order to improve the precision, MQWs with narrow well widths and higher Al mole fraction 'x' should be used. Further, the inclusion of coupling between the valence and conduction subbands in Kane's three-band model is also essential. However,  $Q_v$  is still not determined uniquely by the above energy difference  $\Delta E$ . Different combinations of  $Q_v$  and heavy hole effective masses  $m_{hh}$  in GaAs can lead to the same  $\Delta E$ . The forbidden transition  $E_{13h}$  in a narrow well can be used to identify the actual values of  $m_{hh}$  and  $Q_v$ . (The designation  $E_{nmh(l)}$  refers to the energy separation of the n-th conduction subband and m-th heavy (light) hole subband.) Following such a procedure, we find that  $Q_v = 0.33$  and  $m_{hh} = 0.34m_0$  for  $\text{Al}_x\text{Ga}_{1-x}\text{As/GaAs}$  MQWs ( $x < 0.37$ ).

For  $\text{In}_y\text{Ga}_{1-y}\text{As}$  MQWs (Type I for heavy holes and Type II for light holes, i.e. both electrons and heavy holes are located in the same layers, but the light holes are in different layers), the transition energies between the conduction subbands and the light hole valence subbands are much better parameters to determine the band offsets in comparison with the transitions involving the heavy holes. Both the optical measurements and the calculations including the strain effect show that  $E_{11l}$  between the first conduction subband and the first light hole valence subband in the

Optical Investigation of Highly Strained  
InGaAs-GaAs Multiple Quantum Wells

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Abstract

Low temperature optical transmission spectra of several  $\text{In}_x\text{Ga}_{1-x}\text{As}/\text{GaAs}$  strained multiple quantum wells (MQWs) with different well widths and In mole fractions have been measured. The excitonic transitions up to 3C-3H are observed. The notation  $nc - mH (L)$  is used to indicate the transitions related to the  $n$ -th conduction and  $m$ -th valence heavy (light) hole subbands. Step-like structures corresponding to band-to-band transitions are also observed, which are identified as 1C-1L transitions. The calculated transition energies, taking into account both the strain and the quantum well effects, are in good agreement with the measured values. In these calculations the lattice mismatch between the GaAs buffer and the InGaAs/GaAs MQW is taken into account and the valence band offset  $Q_v$  is chosen as an adjustable parameter. By fitting the experimental results to our calculations, we conclude that the light holes are in the GaAs barrier region (Type II MQW) and the valence band offset  $Q_v$  is determined to be 0.30. A possible system in which the transition from Type I to Type II for light holes might be observed is also discussed.



Interband Transitions in  $\text{In}_x\text{Ga}_{1-x}\text{As}/\text{GaAs}$   
Strained Layer Superlattices

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Room temperature photoreflectance (PR) measurements have been used to investigate the optical transition energies in  $\text{In}_x\text{Ga}_{1-x}\text{As}/\text{GaAs}$  Strained layer superlattice structures grown by molecular beam epitaxy (MBE). Sharp PR features indicating excellent optical quality of these MBE grown structures were observed. The transition energies were calculated and PR spectra fitted to the theoretical lineshape expression. By observing the variation of C1-Lb1 (where C1 is the first conduction subband in InGaAs layers and Lb1 is the first light-hole subband in the GaAs layers) Type II superlattice transition, which cannot be observed with photoluminescence even at low temperatures, a conduction band discontinuity of 70% was obtained. Further, an important outcome of this study is the observation of strong PR features from the spatially indirect C1-Lb1 transition which indicates that the modulation of band-to-band transitions can be a dominant PR lineshape determining mechanism.

# Characterization of Pseudomorphic InGaAs/AlGaAs MODFET Structures Grown by Molecular Beam Epitaxy

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InGaAs/AlGaAs pseudomorphic MODFETs have been the focus of a great deal of attention lately because of their superior DC and microwave performance. Because of the enormous potential of these devices, important parameters, such as InGaAs layer thickness and mole fraction must be optimized.

Pseudomorphic MODFET structures were grown by MBE on undoped GaAs substrates. A typical structure had a  $\mu\text{m}$  unintentionally doped GaAs buffer, followed by an  $\text{In}_y\text{Ga}_{1-y}\text{As}$  quantum well of thickness between  $35\text{\AA}$  ( $y=.30$ ) and  $200\text{\AA}$  ( $y=.15$  or less), a  $30\text{\AA}$  undoped  $\text{Al}_{.15}\text{Ga}_{.85}\text{As}$  spacer region,  $350\text{\AA}$  of  $\text{Al}_{.15}\text{Ga}_{.85}\text{As}$  doped  $n=3\times 10^{18}/\text{cm}^3$ , and a  $200\text{\AA}$  GaAs cap also doped  $n=3\times 10^{18}/\text{cm}^3$ . Layers with In mole fractions above 0.20 also had  $0.1\mu\text{m}$   $\text{Al}_{.15}\text{Ga}_{.85}\text{As}$  layers  $100\text{\AA}$  before the quantum well to better confine the quantum states in the well.

One micron gate devices were fabricated using standard photolithographic techniques. DC measurements at 300 and 77K show that performance seems to peak around a mole fraction of .15-.20, with 300K intrinsic transconductances of 330mS/mm and 370mS/mm for .15 and .20, respectively; both had threshold voltages around -.30V and peak current densities around 280 mA/mm. However, layers with higher mole fractions, 0.25 or more, must have InGaAs layers  $100\text{\AA}$  or thinner to prevent the formation of dislocations. Device performance degrades with increasing mole fractions above 0.20; for example, for a sample with an In mole fraction of 0.30 ( $35\text{\AA}$  thick because of the high mole fraction), an intrinsic transconductance of only 230mS/mm was obtained at 300K, with a threshold voltage of -.60V and a peak current density of 230mA/mm.

Hall measurements and optical measurements confirm the device results. Measurements on the sample with a mole fraction of 0.30 (and others with mole fractions greater than or equal to 0.25) may indicate increased surface roughness scattering, alloy scattering, and conduction in the AlGaAs (higher energy levels have wave functions that spill into the AlGaAs more), leading to a 77K mobility of  $3,700\text{cm}^2/\text{V}\cdot\text{sec}$ , and a sheet carrier concentration of  $2.6\times 10^{12}/\text{cm}^2$ , a very low value for electron mobility in a pseudomorphic MODFET, even taking into account the high measured carrier concentration. Photoreflectance measurements confirm these results; this layer had only one photoreflectance transition below the GaAs bandgap energy (at 1.380eV, tentatively identified as a ground state conduction subband to heavy hole transition), whereas a pseudomorphic MODFET with a  $200\text{\AA}$   $\text{In}_{.15}\text{Ga}_{.85}\text{As}$  quantum well had four transitions below this energy (at 1.252eV, 1.266eV, 1.291eV, and 1.342eV, tentatively identified as first conduction subband to first and second heavy hole subbands, second conduction subband to second heavy hole subband, and third conduction subband to third heavy hole subband transitions). Clearly, thin quantum wells, necessary with mole fractions in the .25-.30 range, result in higher subband energies, as energies have a dependence on well thickness as well as well depth; further, doubling the In mole fraction from .15 to .30 necessitates decreasing the well thickness by more than a factor of two. This yields lower 2DEG concentrations and degraded device performance. The presentation will detail the effects of InGaAs layer thickness and mole fraction, with an emphasis on optimizing device performance.

Excitonic Absorption in Modulation Doped  
GaAs/AlGaAs Quantum Wells

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Abstract

We have performed transmission measurements in a range of undoped through heavily modulation doped GaAs/AlGaAs multiple quantum well structures (MQWS). The observed absorption spectra demonstrate quenching of the excitonic oscillations with increasing quasi-two-dimensional electron gas. The electron density corresponding to the total bleaching of the lowest excitonic oscillation is greater than or equal to  $3 \times 10^{11} \text{ cm}^{-2}$  for a quantum well size of  $200\text{\AA}$ . Theoretical calculations of the absorption spectra which include the effect of carrier screening have been made. From the observation that the linewidth increases with the electron density, we demonstrate that the exciton lifetime reduces due to the interaction between the electrons and the excitons.

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**INGaAs/GaAs STRAINED LAYER MQW ELECTROABSORPTION**  
**OPTICAL MODULATOR AND SELF-ELECTROOPTIC EFFECT**  
**DEVICE**

**Abstract.** We observed a clear excitonic absorption effect at room temperature in MBE-grown  $\text{In}_x\text{Ga}_{1-x}\text{As}/\text{GaAs}$  strained layer Multiple Quantum Well structures and fabricated optical p-i-n modulators on the same structures. A change of 27% in the transmission, corresponding to a change in the absorption coefficient of  $2260 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ , with 6 volt reverse bias voltage and at  $9710 \text{ \AA}$  wavelength was measured. We also operated the modulator as a Self-Electrooptic Effect Device, resulting in a non-linear optical input-output characteristic.

W. Dobbelaere      December 11 1987

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*Reference #430*

Optical Transitions Involving Unconfined Energy  
States in InGaAs/GaAs Multiple Quantum Wells

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Optical transitions between the unconfined electron and confined hole states in highly strained  $\text{In}_x\text{Ga}_{1-x}\text{As}/\text{GaAs}$  multiple quantum wells (MQWs) have been observed in photoreflectance (PR) spectra. In some samples as many as seven structures above the GaAs barrier signal were present. We identify them as unconfined transitions between the unconfined electron states and the confined heavy hole states. At energies lower than that associated with the GaAs signal, intense transitions corresponding to such unconfined transitions were also observed, which cannot be explained by transitions between confined states. The intensities of the unconfined transitions decrease with increasing well widths, but are weakly dependent of the mole fraction  $x$ . The transmission coefficients are calculated in order to locate the positions of the unconfined subband energies. Good agreement is obtained between the experimental data and the theoretical calculation.

Investigation of GaAs/(Al,Ga)As Multiple Quantum Wells  
Grown on Ge and Si Substrates by Molecular Beam Epitaxy

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**ABSTRACT**

We report the first photoreflectance studies on GaAs/(Al,Ga)As multiple quantum wells grown on Si and Ge substrates. The sharp spectral features observed from various subband transitions indicate that good epilayer quality can be obtained on non-polar substrates using suitable growth techniques. The experimental results agree well with calculated values based on the envelope function approximation, when the effect of residual strain resulting from the large difference in thermal expansion between GaAs and Si is taken into account.

*Reference #345*

Investigation of  $\text{GaAs}/\text{Al}_x\text{Ga}_{1-x}\text{As}$   
and  $\text{In}_y\text{Ga}_{1-y}\text{As}/\text{GaAs}$   
Superlattices on Si Substrates

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Abstract

We have studied for the first time the optical properties of  $\text{GaAs}/\text{Al}_x\text{Ga}_{1-x}\text{As}$  lattice matched and  $\text{In}_y\text{Ga}_{1-y}\text{As}/\text{GaAs}$  strained layer superlattices grown on Si substrates by photoreflectance. These preliminary results show that good quality epilayers from different III-V semiconductors can be grown on Si indicating the possibility of new device materials besides their importance in fundamental research. The experimental data were compared with calculations based on envelope-function approximation and fit to third-derivative functional form of reflectance modulation theory.

## Characteristics of P-GaAs/n-Si Heterojunctions

by

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### Abstract

We have studied the electrical characteristics of P-GaAs/n-Si heterojunction diodes grown by molecular beam epitaxy (MBE) in an effort to investigate the quality of the heterointerface. Both Ga and As prelayers were used to initiate the growth of GaAs epilayers on Si substrates. Current-voltage and capacitance-voltage measurements were made between 300K and 83K. Ideality factors for heterojunction diodes were as good as  $n = 2.0$  despite the 4.1% lattice mismatch between Si and GaAs. At high temperatures the I-V characteristics were dominated by generation-recombination mechanisms which lead to a temperature-independent logarithmic slope with applied bias. By removing a thin layer from the Si surface the surface leakage current was reduced by more than an order of magnitude. The measured intercept voltages, as determined by capacitance-voltage measurements, have no strong dependence on the type of prelayer used to initiate the growth of the GaAs epilayer on Si substrates. The maximum spread in measured intercept voltages was about 1 volt, the absolute value of which depends upon the condition of the interface.



# Nearly Ideal p/n Junctions Between GaAs and Si (100)

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## ABSTRACT

Electrical characteristics of GaAs(p)/Si(n) interface, both as-grown and annealed at 850°C for 20 minutes in 10% forming gas under As<sub>2</sub> overpressure, were studied by current-voltage (I-V), capacitance-voltage (C-V), and secondary ion mass spectroscopy (SIMS) measurements and compared to those of GaAs(p) epitaxial layers on GaAs(n) substrates. After annealing, ideality factors greater than 2 obtained on Si and GaAs substrates dropped to 1.5 while the apparent built-in voltage, as determined from C-V measurements, enhanced from 2.5 to 1.2V on Si substrates and from 1.1 to 1.2V on GaAs substrates. In addition, the excess current in the forward and reverse bias conditions dropped drastically. No movement of the metallurgical junction was observed within the

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### GaAs-Si Heterojunction Bipolar Transistor

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#### Abstract

A GaAs/Si heterojunction bipolar transistor (HBT) structure is proposed having application for high frequency operation. The structure combines the high frequency capability of the GaAs/AlGaAs system with the advanced processing technology of Si. The proposed device consists of n-AlGaAs/p-GaAs emitter and base layers on an n-Si collector with improved junction characteristics at the GaAs/Si heterointerface afforded by thermal annealing. This novel device structure combines the advantages associated with a wide bandgap AlGaAs emitter, the high electron mobility of GaAs, and the substantial reduction in device parasitics accorded the self-aligned structure. Additionally, the proposed device offers the possibility of planar GaAs processing. Using a compact transistor model, calculations of the high speed capability of this transistor are presented. For an emitter-base junction area of  $1\text{ }\mu\text{m} \times 5\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ , optimized  $f_{\text{max}} = 108\text{ GHz}$  and  $f_{\text{max}} = f_t = 89\text{ GHz}$  were computed for the GaAs/Si HBT, compared to 76 GHz and 62 GHz, respectively, for equivalent GaAs/AlGaAs HBTs.

High Speed Performance of InP/In<sub>0.53</sub>Ga<sub>0.47</sub>As/InP  
Double Heterojunction Bipolar Transistors

by

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Abstract

A theoretical comparison of In<sub>0.53</sub>Ga<sub>0.47</sub>As/InP and Al<sub>0.3</sub>Ga<sub>0.7</sub>As/GaAs heterojunction bipolar transistors has been undertaken in an effort to determine the relative merits of these material system. The analysis uses a compact transistor model and considers devices with self-aligned geometries including both extrinsic and intrinsic parameters. The high electron mobility in the In<sub>0.53</sub>Ga<sub>0.47</sub>As base layer and high peak velocity of electrons in the collector depletion layer result in a current gain cutoff frequency in excess of 150 GHz for an InP/In<sub>0.53</sub>Ga<sub>0.47</sub>As transistor with base thickness of 0.1  $\mu\text{m}$ . Calculation revealed, however, that maximum oscillation frequency is strongly dependent on the contact resistance of the p-type base layer even for self-aligned base transistor. A maximum oscillation frequency of 138 GHz is theoretically predicted for an InP/In<sub>0.53</sub>Ga<sub>0.47</sub>As transistor with base thickness of 0.06  $\mu\text{m}$ , base doping of  $1 \times 10^{20} \text{cm}^{-3}$ , a p-type contact resistance of  $1.0 \times 10^{-7} \Omega \text{cm}^2$ , a current density of  $5 \times 10^4 \text{A/cm}^2$ , and a  $V_{\text{CB}}$  of 5 volt.

*Reference #421*

An  $\text{In}_{0.52}\text{Al}_{0.48}\text{As}/\text{In}_{0.53}\text{Ga}_{0.47}\text{As}$  Double Heterojunction Bipolar Transistor  
with Non-alloyed Ohmic Contact  
Using  $\text{n}^+\text{-InAs}$  Cap Layer

by

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Abstract

We have investigated non-alloyed ohmic contacts on  $\text{In}_{0.52}\text{Al}_{0.48}\text{As}/\text{In}_{0.53}\text{Ga}_{0.47}\text{As}$  double heterojunction bipolar transistors (DHBTs) using an  $\text{n}^+\text{-InAs}$  emitter cap layer grown by molecular beam epitaxy (MBE). Specific contact resistances of  $1.8 \times 10^{-7}$  and  $1.3 \times 10^{-6} \Omega\text{cm}^2$  have been measured for the non-alloyed emitter and base contacts, respectively. Non-alloyed contacts have led to I-V characteristics that are more uniform from device to device than those obtained with alloyed contacts. The offset voltage of the common emitter output characteristics, which arise from the asymmetry of emitter and collector junction turn-on voltages, is less than 50 mV, and the common emitter current gain is around 1,300, maximum being 1,500, at a collector current density of  $2.7 \times 10^3 \text{ A/cm}^2$ . To our knowledge, these are the highest current gain obtained in this HBT structure prepared by MBE.

**Enhanced Ballistic Transport  
in InGaAs/InAlAs Hot Electron Transistors**

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**Abstract**

Hot electron transistors fabricated using a 600 Å InGaAs base and 500 Å InAlAs barrier have shown peak ballistic common base current gain of 0.82 at 77 K despite the large injection energies. Reduction of injection energies by lowering the emitter and collector barriers should lead to even higher ballistic transport ratio due to the reduced  $\Gamma$ -L scattering.

## IV. List of Latest Publications

## Journal Articles

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